Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A message router for routing a message between a protocol gateway and a server, the message router comprising:

an authenticator to authenticate that a particular source of a message is an authorized user of a messaging network, said authenticator authenticating said particular source of said message before said message is routed by said message router between a protocol gateway and a server; and

a database accessible by said message router and adapted to store information relating to routing and authentication of said particular source of said message.

20. (currently amended) The message router according to claim 19, wherein:

said protocol gateway ~~server~~ is a least recently used protocol gateway.

21. (currently amended) The message router according to claim 19, wherein:

said message router ~~server~~ is a least recently used message router.

22. (previously presented) The message router according to claim 19, wherein:

said message router routes said message to a most specific server corresponding to a message key.

23. (previously presented) The message router according to claim 19, wherein:

said message router routes said message based on a content of said message.

24. (currently amended) A method of routing a message between a protocol gateway and a server comprising:

authenticating that a particular source of ~~said~~ a message is an authorized user of a messaging network before [[a]] said message is routed by a message router between a protocol gateway and a server;

accessing a database by said message router; and

storing information relating to routing and authentication of said particular source of said message.

25. (currently amended) The method of routing a message according to claim 24, wherein:

said protocol gateway ~~server~~ is a least recently used protocol gateway.

26. (previously presented) The method of routing a message according to claim 24, wherein:

said server is a least recently used message router.

27. (previously presented) The method of routing a message according to claim 24, further comprising:

routing said message to a most specific server corresponding to a message key.

28. (previously presented) The method of routing a message according to claim 24, further comprising:

routing said message based on a content of said message.

29. (currently amended) An apparatus for routing a message between a protocol gateway and a server comprising:

means for authenticating that a particular source of a message is an authorized user of a messaging network before said message is routed by a message router between a protocol gateway and a server;

means for accessing a database by said message router; and

means for storing information relating to routing and authentication of said particular source of said message.

30. (currently amended) The apparatus for routing a message according to claim 29, wherein:

said protocol gateway ~~server~~ is a least recently used protocol gateway.

31. (previously presented) The apparatus for routing a message according to claim 29, wherein:

said server is a least recently used message router.

32. (previously presented) The apparatus for routing a message according to claim 29, further comprising:

means for routing said message to a most specific server corresponding to a message key.

33. (previously presented) The apparatus for routing a message according to claim 29, further comprising:

means for routing said message based on a content of said message.

34-41. (canceled)